

**ABSTRACT**

In a GPRS system, a method of a mobile station acquiring an IP network address.

The method comprises the steps of:

the mobile station generating a link identifier and sending it to a gateway over a wireless link in a network address request together with a request to check if the link identifier is unique;

the gateway receiving the network address request and checking if the link identifier is unique;

the gateway responding with a network address request response including either the sending a unique link identifier confirmed as being unique or a different unique link identifier;

the gateway sending a network prefix to the mobile station;

the mobile station combining the interface identifier and the network prefix to generate the IP network address.